FEE ENCLOSED:\$ 7450.00
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PTO/SB/30 (5/2000)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection of Act of 1999 (AIPA)

1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

MECA		
JAN OFIVE		
First Named Inventor: Minoru Watanab		
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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

a.X Previously Submitted i. X Consider the amendment(s)reply previou (Any unentered amendment(s) referred ii. □ Consider the arguments in the Appeal B iii.□ Other	I to above will be enter rief or Reply Brief pre	red).
b. Enclosed	01/27/2003 EAREGAY1	00000033 10025783
 i. □ Amendment/Reply ii. □ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii.X Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv.□ Other		750.00 OP
a. □ Suspension of action on the above-identi a period of months. (Period of suspension b. □ Other	n shall not exceed 3 months	; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (i) required)
 3. FEES The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by a. X The Director is hereby authorized to char Account No. 18-0002. i. X RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1 ii. □ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1. iii.□ Other	rge the following fees, .17(e) .136 and 1.17)	

Name
(Print or Type)

Phillip G7 Avruch
Signature

Registration
Number
46,076

Date
January 24, 2003